

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 03120 190207Z

ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SY-05 ISO-00 /012 W
-----190214Z 130945 /72/53

P 180858Z MAR 77

FM AMCONGEN HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4147

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (DATE MISSING PARA 2 1ST LINE)

DEPT FOR A/OC/P AND A/SY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ACOM

SUBJ: SMUGGLING BY STOLEN POUCHES

1. ON MAR 15, US CUSTOMS REP HONG KONG OBSERVED BALE OF US DI
POUCHES IN THE CUSTOMS AREA, KAI TAK AIRPORT. POUCHES WERE PICKED
UP BY A THAI NATIONAL, WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE CONSULATE
GENERAL STAFF. CUSTOMS REP ALERTED HONG KONG PREVENTIVE SERVICE
(HKPS) AUTHORITIES.

2. ON MAR HKPS INTERCEPTED 46 BAGS MARKED AS US DIP POUCHES
OUTGOING FROM KAI TAK. CUSTOMS REP WAS NOTIFIED AND AFTER
ASCERTAINING POUCHES WERE NOT IN TRANSIT AND NOT ORIGINATED BY
AMCONGEN HONG KONG. POST AUTHORIZED POUCHES TO BE OPENED BY
HKPS IN PRESENCE OF CUSTOMS REP. ALL BAGS CONTAINED DUTIABLE
ITEMS SUCH AS NIKOMAT CAMERAS, TEAC STEREO EQUIPMENT, RADIOS,
CALUCLATORS, AND WRIST WATCHES. CONTENTS WERE MANIFESTED AS
DIPLOMATIC MATERIAL. THE SHIPPER HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS
AS THAI NATIONAL, K. VERA (FEMAL, NFID). SHE IS KNOWN
TO HAVE DEALINGS WITH ANOTHER THAI NATIONAL, MONCHAI JANGKALAYA-
NONT, AKA: KWOH, THAI PP I88366 WHO WORKS FOR TSO SENG HUAT,
31 DES VOEUX ROAD WEST, HONG KONG.

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3. POUCHES WERE SHIPPED PREPAID TO AMEMBASSY DACCA VIA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK. IT SHOULD BE NOTED BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE A
HIGH TRAIFF ON THE GOODS FOUND IN THE POUCHES. SENDER WAS
/ "MR. ROGER SMITH C/O AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, HONG KONG".
ROGER SMITH HAS SINCE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A THAI NATIONAL, THAI PPT
NUMBER I 88366. HKPS RECORDS REFLECTED A TOTAL OF 19 SUCHSHIPMENTS,

289 POUCHES, WERE SENT FROM HONG KONG TO EITHER KATMANDU OR DACCA VIA BANGKOK SINCE JAN 8, 1977. NO SHIPMENTS PRIOR TO JANUARY 1977 WERE NOTED.

4. STOLEN POUCHES MAY BE IDENTIFIED BY OBSOLETE, BLUE BORDERED "A" BAG TAGS WHICH ARE EITHER GENUINE OR VERY GOOD COUNTERFEIT. SEALS ARE THE SAME SIZE AS THE GENUINE SEALS, BUT ARE NOT CRIMPED WITH A DEPARTMENT MACHINE AND DO NOT BEAR THE INITIALS "USA" ON THE CRIMP.

5. EVIDENCE AVAILABLE INDICATES POUCHES' DESTINATION BANGKOK WITH POSSIBLE ALTERNATE DESTINATION DACCA. POUCHES BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN POSSIBLY STOLEN IN BANGKOK.

6. SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE HAS BEEN PASSED TO RSO BANGKOK WHO WAS REQUESTED TO ADVISE REGIONAL COURIER SUPERVISOR. POST LEAVE NOTIFICATION OF OTHER POSTS TO THE DISCRETION OF THE DEPARTMENT. POST WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED OF CURRENT INTERNATIONAL LAW RELEVANT TO THIS CASE TO ASSIST FORMULATION OF CHARGES BY HOST GOVERNMENT. WILL ADVISE AS FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WARRANT. CROSS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Subject: SMUGGLING BY STOLEN POUCHES
TAGS: ASEC, ACOM
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